



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

MAR 17 2000

ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR
FOR ENFORCEMENT AND
COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE

Ms. Kelley Ogletree
Missouri Petroleum Marketers
and Convenience Store Operators
205 E. Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Dear Ms. Ogletree:

As you know, there has been a reformulated gasoline (RFG) supply disruption in the St. Louis metropolitan area due to a leak in the Explorer Pipeline that occurred on March 10, 2000, in Greenville, Texas. A substantial portion of the RFG used in St. Louis is transported by the Explorer Pipeline. Explorer has stated that the pipeline is now operational and that RFG is expected to reach St. Louis by March 23, and a second pipeline shipment is expected approximately on April 1. In addition, we have been informed by the U.S. Department of Energy that supplies of RFG are insufficient to cover demand in the St. Louis area, and that RFG supplies are expected to continue to be inadequate until the second Explorer Pipeline shipment arrives in early April.

Section 211(k) of the Clean Air Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder (40 CFR Part 80 Subpart D) prohibit the sale of conventional gasoline in an RFG covered area. However, in light of the current supply situation in St Louis, effective immediately I will exercise enforcement discretion and will enforce the RFG requirements as follows:

- Distributors may deliver conventional gasoline to retail outlets and wholesale purchaser-consumer facilities (facilities) in the St. Louis covered area. This category of enforcement discretion expires on April 3, 2000.
- Distributors may receive deliveries of conventional gasoline into terminal tanks normally used to store RFG provided the volume of conventional gasoline is no greater than the volume necessary to supply the terminal's demands through April 3, 2000. Distributors may continue to deliver gasoline from such a tank to facilities in the St. Louis covered area subsequent to April 3 if the tank has received a delivery of RFG.
- Beginning on April 3, 2000, only RFG may be delivered to terminals that supply facilities in the St. Louis covered area.



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- Beginning on May 1, 2000, the gasoline at terminals that supply facilities in the St. Louis covered area must meet all applicable RFG standards including the VOC emissions control standards, and these standards will not be enforced at terminals until this date.
- Beginning on June 1, 2000, the gasoline at retail outlets and wholesale purchaser-consumer facilities in the St. Louis covered area must meet all applicable RFG standards including the VOC emissions control standard, and these standards will not be enforced at these facilities until this date.

This relief is subject to the condition that a distributor who has RFG must supply RFG instead of conventional gasoline, and if RFG is made available to other distributors these other distributors must use reasonable efforts to distribute RFG instead of conventional gasoline.

If you have questions, please call Mr. George Lawrence of my staff at 202-564-1307.

Sincerely,


Steven A. Herman

cc: Steve Mahfood,
Missouri Department of Natural Resources

John Buchanan
Missouri Department of Natural Resources,
Energy Center